TARC NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2004

Post Office Box 73
Titusville, FL

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Vice-President	Secretary-Treasurer	Editor
Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-2796 k4cwg@cfl.rr.com	Bob Keim W4TAT 383-1509 w4tat@earthlink.com	Becky Lee KF4HTB 267-9375 lees@titusvillearc.org	Bob Green N3DMI 637-3469 n3dmi@ij.net
Board Member	**Board Member**	**Board Member**	**Board Member**
Bob Farrington W4YBI 633-5664 bobandlinda3@juno.com	Hank Phillips AA4HP 264-2492 aa4hp@arrl.net	Pike Abell W4EPU 269-4208 pikeatal@digital.net	John Renninger KE4ZPA 267-9431 ke4zpa@gnc.net
146.91 Repeater Trustee	**146.97 Repeater Trustee**	**444.15 Repeater Trustee**	**147.775 Repeater Trustee**
Les Griner K4SJC 267-1565 k4sjc2@aol.com	Warren Murray W4CEL 268-2199 pager 638-5476	Mike Hensley W4LOV 639-1553 w4lov@hostpc.net	Ken Denman KD4HNW 269-5711

MEETINGS: 4th Tuesday of each month, 1900 hrs at the Jaycee's Building, 405 North Singleton Ave North of Garden St. TI 146.91 mHz

Eatin Meetin: Thursday nights 1730-1830 hrs at a local restautant. Contact Sherry Hughes 279-2796 or 146.91 mHz

MARCH MINUTES
By Becky Lee KF4HTB

After the opening ceremonies of Pledge, moment of silence and introduction of members and guests, Bill Eppley, W2SDB entertained the group by playing several tunes on his harmonica including Happy Birthday.

Don Alford K1DRA told the members about the radio operator training course which will be held in the library of IRCC's Colony Hall. It starts April 19 and ends May 31 and will be taught by Stephanie K4MVO.

Bud K4CWG said that Warren W4CEL has agreed to be the chairman for field day in June. After some discussion about the site for field day, a motion was made, voted on and passed to return to last years site which is Well 3 Station off South Barna.

W4YBI Bob Farrington has agreed to be the TARC Skywarn operator. Please contact him for participation and information.

Stephanie, K4VMO gave a rundown of what is doing at BEARS and ARES. She urged members to participate in the April 24 Ride for Red. Please contact her for more information.

There being no planned program, there was a lengthy refreshment and social hour.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER
H "Bud" Hughes K4CWG

One never knows who will be in attendance at our Thursday evening "Eating Meeting" at Village Inn. This past Thursday our gathering was graced by the attendance of our friends and fellow club member from Seabrook, N.H. Tom Kelly K1TJK and his lovely bride Kitty. Tom and Kitty having spent the winter at MacDill Air Force Base and are now making their way back to their home in Seabrook, N.H.

1. Our club voted to have the Titusville water facility located North of SR 405 off Barna Ave. in South Titusville as the location of our Field Day activities. Field Day will be the 26th and 27th of June. Preparations are in progress for that annual event and as always you are cordially invited to join in the fun and training at Field Day.

Our dear friend William Robert "Bob" Young N4DQT has become a member of the Silent Key Club. As most of you know Bob prepared our club By-Laws and has been a member of TARC for many years. We are truly indebted to Bob for his many hours of service to his country, community and to our radio hobby. Our condolences are extended to Bob's family and many friends in the departure of a wonderful husband, father, leader and dear friend.

Spring time brings us to the time of year when we must bid adieu to our friends and club members who now are packing their bags and headed back to their homes in the North. For your News Letter to reach you and for us to keep in contact with you please give us your updated address, phone number and email address. Your presence has brightened our days. With your journey home we all wish you and yours smooth sailing and of course we look forward to your return in the fall.

Did you know that Bill W4RUN is teaching amateur radio classes at Astronaut High School? Before you get this newsletter Coach Canfield's high school students will have taken and passed the Technician Class License and will have their amateur radio Technician class license. This same class will continue under Bill's leadership and will upgrade to the General Class License. We are so proud of the students and look forward to meeting them on the air. Kudos to Bill and to Astronaut High School.

Let me echo our News Letter Editor's request for your input of news, comments etc. for our newsletter. Please share with the club your thoughts, ideas and suggestions. Remember it is your newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next club meeting, bring a friend

73s & 88s

BEARS Report April 2004
By Stephanie Phillips K4MVO

Training, Training, Training!

I know I keep harping about training, but I'm going to keep the push on until I hear all the ARES volunteers in the North Area on the air. You can check-into a weekly ARES/RACES net, volunteer for a Public Service Event, or come out for a drill. Just do something to get more training! Check the Calendar (insert to this newsletter) for Nets, upcoming Public Service Events and Drills. I hope to see and hear you on the air. Please monitor 146.91 on May 5th, 2004, State-wide Hurricane Drill, ZANE.

Let's surprise Bud & Sherry and the other volunteers on April 24th and show up at the War Bird Museum and give them our support for the Ride for the Red public service event. I know that's the same weekend as the Indian River Festival, but hey, you can help us out in the morning & then go to the festival with the family later in the day.

Also, don't forget that the Brevard Vietnam Veteran's Reunion is going on the same weekend and I know that KB4WIC, Bob Bodine, can still use some volunteer communicators.

On June 5th, the BEARS will have a Comm Vehicle set up at the Publix Supermarket at Saint John's Plaza, on Garden Street. Come take a look at our gear and help us hand out hurricane preparedness brochures to the public. Maybe this would be a good time to recruit students for a summer session Ham Radio Class.

I hope to see a bunch of you on May 17th, at the Manatees Ballpark. The EOC has asked for help out at their booth. They want to get the word out to the public about preparing for disasters, and then of course there is a ball game. I've asked for tickets for our volunteers' family members. (Hey it doesn't hurt to ask.)

And of course don't forget the Governor's Hurricane Conference is May 24 –28, 2004.

Ray, N4LEM, and Ed, KG4KVO, and I are conducting the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course, starting at Level One, at the County EOC. We're at the midway point and we'll be wrapping it up by the middle of May.

The BEARS' Communication Assistance Teams (CATs) Chief, Jim Bayless, W4BAL, announced that he is retiring from this volunteer position at the end of April. David Norton, KB3GJH, has volunteered to take over and I know all of us will give him our support. After April 30th, the CATs will be having their Monday morning work group meetings at the County EOC.

I'll be attending a Titusville CERT meeting on May 20th, and I'd like to know how many of your ARES members are also part of a CERT. Please let me know prior to the 20th. Thanks.

BEARS meet on the second Tuesday of the month, 1900, at the County EOC, Rockledge, Talk-in Freq: 147.135.

Again, I hope to hear you all on the air during these upcoming events and drills. And I hope to see bunches of you at the upcoming training activities.

Stephanie Phillips, K4MVO
President, BEARS Inc.
264-2492

SKYWARN
Bob Farrington, W4YBI

A special SkyWarn net was conducted on the 146.91 repeater on 04-08-2004 in response to the Severe Thunderstorm Warning issued by the Weather Bureau at Melbourne for Brevard County. The net was opened at 1504 local and closed at 1556 local. A total of 19 stations checked in. One report of "quarter" sized hail was received from KE4ZMZ operating mobile on Clearlake Blvd in Cocoa. That report was relayed to the Weather Bureau via land line. Stations participating were:

KG4KVO	KF4LTY	W4YBI	KF4VRQ
K4CWG	KC4VIN	KG4YFN	KG4YFN
KU4ZO	K1DRA	K4SJC	KE4AGM
W4RBI	WD4EBA	K4SWJ	KE4ZMZ
WB4ZWI	KI4DXJ	KD4KVO	KF4UDO
KC4VIO			

At our May meeting, Dennis Decker from the National Weather Service in Melbourne will be our special speaker. Dennis will have the latest information on what to look for and what to report on SkyWarn. In addition, he will award SkyWarn ID cards to all who take the training. You will enjoy this presentation.

Bob Farrington, W4YBI SkyWarn Net Control

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 06 KS4BD	DARWIN MCCOMBS
APRIL 08 K4ATD	ANGIE DIMEO
APRIL 10 KF4UN	DAVE POST
APRIL 13 KE4YQF	MARY LORENZI
APRIL 30 KB3RBU	VERN BAUER

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance		$2101.09
Deposits		1668.30
Total Income		$3769.30
Expenditures		565.76
Ending Balance	3/31/04	3203.63

RENEWALS

KE4BBH	Jim Prevatt	KE4HOG	Nancy Prevatt
KE4BBJ	Charles Prosser	KE4BBK	Ora Prosser
N2CTQ	Lou Gencorelli	N2USO	Marie Gencorelli
N3DMI	Bob Green	K1DRA	Don Alford
K1BOT	Joan Alford	WW4G	Brian Van Alstine
K4DJV	Janet Van Alstine	N4IPJ	Michael Fineman
KG4lob	Errol Stevens	N4MCZ	Rod Iwan
N1OGE	Bertha Bonardi	N1PAW	Joe Bonardi
KG4RFT	Charles Daily	KF4UN	Dave Post
KG4WLC	Mike Stallings	KF4VYH	Bill Young
KF4UDO	RANDY DAVIS		

NEW MEMBERS

None

WHY NOT???????
Bob

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https://archive.org/details/tarc-news-2004-04

BOB's ERRATIC THOUGHTS

By Bob Green N3DMI

Well here we are 4 months into the new year, many of you made resolutions at the beginning of the year, how many of the resolutions have been kept? "Only the Shadow Knows".

Well so much for an opening thought. My arthritic ears have been detecting hate and discontent over my articles. This is good. People are reading the newsletter, and I am rocking the boat.

I would like to review what my goals are regarding TARC. First I want to make it known that I have no political goals. I want nothing but the best for TARC. This club has been in the past, a very well known and respected club within the community. However, things change with time, we haven't had any real disasters to pull us together. We have allowed ourselves to become complacent. We have allowed our skills to become rusty and have not kept up with the changes in emergency communications; where in the past we could immediately jump in and help, becoming an asset to the community, but with those rusty skills and unfamiliar procedures we become a burden on the local EC. One county EC recognizes this and has developed a one hour training session just for those who respond to the emergency and must be brought up to speed before then can be used.

We must maintain our skills as hams so that we DO NOT become a burden to the EC and the local communications system. I am not degrading anyone, because my skills are rusty also. What can we do about all this rust?? Well, we can check into the BEARS Nets; take the online/or offline ARRL Emergency Communications Courses, which are FREE!; attend local training courses, which I am happy to say that 3 TARC members, Jose Ramos KC4VIO, Bob Farrington W4YBI and myself attended. I am safe in saying, that if asked, Bob and Jose would agree with me, that this course was not enough and we need to practice our skills to attain and maintain a proficient level of competency so that we can immediately step in and be an valued asset to our community. These same skills will also benefit us when we participate in community activities, such as the upcoming Ride For Red.

Currently discussion has begun on the possibility of starting a practice message handling net for Brevard County . Who knows, maybe this concept will grow and include other Florida areas? If you are really interested and want to become an expert in traffic handling, then you can join one of the many traffic handling nets, some are phone, fast and slow speed CW (K4CWG take note), digital, VHF/HF/UHF. You name it. I found 118 nets within Florida alone.

What else can we do? Why we can support the North Brevard Emergency Coordinator, our own, Ed Wirth KG4KVO. Ed has a big job on his shoulders and anything we can do to assist him will be greatly appreciated. Is your portable equipment in working order, do you have an emergency kit with the personal supplies you will require for 72 hours? How about batteries, you know those things that run the rabbits or look like they are covered with melted copper, do you have enough? Let's don't go out and buy them today, it's not hurricane season, let's wait until we run out the hurricane or tornado decides to make a visit. Next month I will have a suggested list of emergency supplies we should include in our emergency kits. I want to continue in my discussions, but I have some space constraints. My goal is to have the newsletter on both web sites and emailed to all club members starting in June. That way we can reduce publishing and distribution costs.

Remember "LETS SUPPORT OUR OFFICERS AND CLUB".
Bob N3DMI

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following statement was issued by the President and Board of Directors of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club.

There has been a recent case of unlicensed and vulgar use of the 146.91repeater. In the event this problem continues in the future, the following strategy is recommended:

1. Do not acknowledge the unlicensed operator or engage in further communication once the unlicensed nature of the operation is recognized.

2. If the unlicensed operation persists, a designated control operator is encouraged to enable sub-audible (PL) tones.

3. If PL tones do not block the unlicensed operator, the repeater will be shut down.

4. A plan will be implemented for direction finding to locate the interference.

Club members are encouraged to participate in this effort to keep the 146.91 repeater in operation for the good of all licensed amateurs.

CONGRATULATIONS

President and VE Bud Hughes K4CWG reports that 9 of 10 Astronaut High School students taking the Technician Class License Exam passed. They should have their calls posted in the FCC data bank by the close of business April 22. Let's all give a hand to Instructor Bill Canfield W4RUN and his students for a job well done. When these new hams venture on to the repeater for the first time let's welcome them to ham radio with open arms.

ARRL Southern Florida Section Manager: Sharon T. Brower, W4STB

Section Emergency Coordinator KD4GR (contact for ARES and EmergencyCommunications questions, OES and EC reports); Section Traffic Manager K4PG(contact for NTS questions, Station Activity Reports, Public Service Reports, Net coordination); Affiliated Club Coordinator/Technical Coordinator WA4AW (contact for Affilliation questions, Club questions, Technical issues) ASM KA4FZI, ASM W4WYR, Official Observer Coordinator W4WLR (contact for operating violations) SGL W1XO, DEC/ASM N4LEM, K9SHT, AA4BN.
SFL WEB PAGE: http://www.sflarrl.org.SFL News and photos: http://www.arrl.org/sections/SFL.html (This was updated on 4/17.)

Spring is here. I see the signs. Snowbirds (both feathered and human) heading north, amaryllis in bloom, Field Day plans, proms, talk of Dayton trips, etc.

April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week. Thank you Volunteers! Any time you spend volunteering with amateur radio or any other group is appreciated.

Organizations and communities cannot function without you -- the most important folks -- the volunteers.

Last months traffic and public service reports are below. (Looks like we still have computer problems -- records are being saved and I will post update, hopefully, next month so that reports are archived for the yearly CD). I have updated the SFL News with new photos, articles, and club news. Please visit both web sites listed above to find information to answer many of your questions, broaden your radio knowledge, and find new ideas for your clubs.

The Section SET is scheduled for May 17 through 23 with a CAT exercise.

73, GUD DX, And CU in the FQP
Sherri, W4STB

In an effort to control space and funds, I did not publish some articles that had ben tendered. These articles will be posted on the web sites as I start publishing the newsletter electronically. Bob

Post Office Box 73
Titusville, FL 32781-0073

Titusville Amateur Radio Club
T. A. R. C
Titusville, Florida

FIRST CLASS MAIL

CLUB MEETING 1900 4/27/04

AMATEUR RADIO
HAM IT UP!
A NATIONAL RESOURCE